

Virginia Air Board  
c/o Terry Darton  
Air Permit Manager  
13901 Crown Court  
Woodbridge, VA 22193

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2006

Northern Va. Region  
Dept. of Env. Quality

Dear Air Board-

As I understand it, you are the last leg of protest in the continued controversy surrounding the Potomac River Generating Station. I also understand that there have been several valid concerns over the years, with regards to environmental safety and standards pertaining to the emissions coming from this plant.

As a taxpaying citizen of Alexandria for 25 years, I feel that I am entitled to express my viewpoint, and concerns here. As this issue continues to drag on, it is I that have paid ultimately, for these litigations. Your argument which asks for the closure of this plant, which is one of three vital sources that contribute to our power grid, would cost me money as well. As less power would be available to go around, it is easy to see at least two major problems that will occur. Our individual energy costs will skyrocket, and as the remaining sources are taxed beyond their capabilities, we most likely would suffer periods of black outs and/or brown outs, as they presently have occurred on the West Coast. I am sure there would be other repercussions, but these are obvious, and would happen in a relatively short period of time. Since you, the Virginia Air Board, are the only ones to remain with your feet firmly planted on questionable ground, please explain to me what your plan is to help the residents with the costs that will ultimately fall into their laps, again.

On the other side of the controversy is Mirant, the plant's owner. They have repeatedly stepped up to the plate to comply with all environmental standards, even as you kept changing the rules. Now, they have shown their ultimate respect for the residents, in offering a 30 million dollar engineering retrofit plan, that will resolve all of the environmental concerns in one fell swoop, without costing the city of Alexandria one dime. I believe their good faith efforts have therefore outweighed yours. It is done, please accept that and move on.

Thank you for your service,

*Larieta Hibbitts*  
Larieta Hibbitts

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